Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-20 are pending. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (cancelled)

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (cancelled)

5. (cancelled)

6. (cancelled)

7. (cancelled)

8. (cancelled)

9. (cancelled)

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) A system of partitioning authors on a given topic in a newsgroup into two opposite classes of the authors, the system comprising:

an identifying module configured to identify all links among the authors, wherein each link represents a response from one of the authors to another of the authors; ~~and~~

an analyzing module configured to analyze the identified links, wherein the identified links are assumed to be more likely to be antagonistic links rather than non-antagonistic links,

wherein the identifying module comprises

a vertex assigning module configured to assign a vertex of a graph to each of the authors and

an edge assigning module configured to assign an edge of the graph to each interaction between two of the assigned vertices corresponding to two of the authors, and

wherein the analyzing module comprises

a creating module configured to create a co-citation matrix of the graph, wherein the co-citation matrix comprises the assigned vertices and the assigned edges,

a setting module configured to set a weighted edge with a weight of w for each set of two of the assigned vertices only if the number of the authors to whom both members of the set have responded is w, and

a solving module configured to solve a min-weight approximately balanced cut problem on the co-citation matrix, thereby generating the two opposite classes of the authors.

13. (cancelled)

14. (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) A system of partitioning authors on a given topic in a newsgroup into two opposite classes of the authors, the system comprising:

an identifying module configured to identify all links among the authors, wherein each link represents a response from one of the authors to another of the authors; ~~and~~

an analyzing module configured to analyze the identified links, wherein the identified links are assumed to be more likely to be antagonistic links rather than non-antagonistic links,

wherein the identifying module comprises

a vertex assigning module configured to assign a vertex of a graph to each of the authors and

an edge assigning module configured to assign an edge of the graph to each interaction between two of the assigned vertices corresponding to two of the authors, and

~~The system of claim 13~~

wherein the analyzing module comprises a solving module configured to solve a max cut problem on the graph, wherein the graph comprises the assigned vertices and the assigned edges, thereby generating the two opposite classes of the authors.

16. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~14~~ 12 wherein the solving module comprises a calculating module configured to calculate the second eigenvector of the co-citation matrix, thereby generating the two opposite classes of the authors.

17. (currently amended) A system of partitioning authors on a given topic in a newsgroup into two opposite classes of the authors, the system comprising:

an identifying module configured to identify all links among the authors, wherein each link represents a response from one of the authors to another of the authors; ~~and~~

an analyzing module configured to analyze the identified links, wherein the identified links are assumed to be more likely to be antagonistic links rather than non-antagonistic links,

wherein the identifying module comprises

a vertex assigning module configured to assign a vertex of a graph to each of the authors,

an edge assigning module configured to assign an edge of the graph to each interaction between two of the assigned vertices corresponding to two of the authors, and

~~The system of claim 13 further comprising~~

a fixing module configured to fix the assigned vertices of the authors who are most prolific, and

wherein the analyzing module comprises

a creating module configured to create a co-citation matrix of the graph, wherein the co-citation matrix comprises the assigned vertices, the assigned edges, and the fixed assigned vertices of the most prolific authors,

a setting module configured to set a weighted edge with a weight of w for each set of two of the assigned vertices only if the number of the authors to whom both members of the set have responded is w, and

a solving module configured to solve a min-weight approximately balanced cut problem on the co-citation matrix, thereby generating the two opposite classes of the authors.

18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)